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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

: Confirmation No. 3008

Tomohiko HASHIBA

: Docket No. 2002_0395A

Serial No. 10/089,604

: Group Art Unit 1744

Filed April 1, 2002

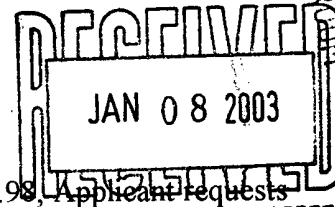
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

FORMALDEHYDE GAS STERILIZER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:



Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests
consideration of ☒ the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional
information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form
PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not
provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent
application Serial No.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-
entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office
Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
- (2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:


- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☒ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. ☒ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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December 31, 2002

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: December 31, 2002

DEC 31 2002

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2002_0395ASERIAL NO.
10/089,604APPLICANT
Tomohiko HASHIBAFILING DATE
April 1, 2002GROUP
1744

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,882,590	3/16/1999	Stewart et al.			
	AB	4,764,351	8/16/1988	Hennebert et al.			
	AC	4,119,400	10/10/1978	Kurz			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AJ	2354779	1/1978	FR				
	AK	97/47331	12/1997	WO				
	AL	2502498	10/1982	FR				
	AM							
	AN							

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199944 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class D22, AN 1999-374211 XP002221548 & JP 11 226094 A (FEATHER GLASS KK) 24 August 1999.
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.